



Defense Supply Center Richmond

SOURCE APPROVAL

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Tim McKee

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Determine What It Is?

- **Source approval is dependant upon several factors;**
 - **Is the item Critical Safety Item (CSI)?**
 - **Is the item Controlled Source?**
 - **Is the item on a Source Controlled drawing?**
 - **Is the item Drawing Proprietary?**
 - **Is the item Competitive?**
 - **Is the item Fully Competitive?**
 - **Are there special Quality Assurance Requirements?**



What do those Codes mean?

- **The Government uses Acquisition Method Codes (AMC) a single digit numeric code & Acquisition Method Suffix Code (AMSC) a single digit alpha code which identifies it's category. Here are a few examples of those codes;**
 - **AMC "1" = competitive (multiple sources)**
 - **AMC "3" = sole source (direct purchase manufacturer)**
 - **AMSC "B" = source controlled, OEM approval required**
 - **AMSC "C" = controlled sources, ESA approval required**
 - **AMSC "G" = fully competitive, no approval required**
 - **AMSC "H" = inadequate data for full & open competition**
 - **AMSC "T" = qualified products list (QPL)**



Who says it's Critical? UNCLE SAM SAYS SO!

- **The Military Services provide DLA with Essentiality Codes that dictate the Criticality Codes in our CTDF (Contracting Technical Data File).**
 - EC1 = Failure renders end item inoperable**
 - EC5 = Needed for Personnel Safety**
 - Either of these codes equals a CIC-Critical Application Item**
- **The Military Services provide DLA with lists of NSNs that they have identified as a “CRITICAL SAFETY ITEM”. DLA uses SPC- Special Process Codes to direct these items to be managed in a very specific manner in order to guarantee Aircraft and Aircrew safety.**
- **There are other Military Service lists for items that require special management such as “AIRCRAFT LAUNCH and RECOVERY EQUIPMENT”, “INDIVIDUAL REPAIR PARTS ORDERING DATA”**

There are STRINGENT rules associated with all of these SPECIAL items.



What do you mean I'm not an approved source?

- **The Navy has a 3 year rule for manufacturing of Critical Safety Items.**

If a contractor has not delivered a CSI item within that timeframe, they

must be re-evaluated by the service. This does not necessarily mean the contractor has to submit a new SAR. If the ESA does not impose new testing or quality requirements, the contractor has no adverse quality history, has not moved or changed processes, then this should be a simple review.

- **The Army requires the CSI Spares Technical Data Packages (STDPS) to be validated yearly and manufacturing sources are part of that review. If a source has no adverse quality history, has not moved or changed processes, this should be a simple review.**
- **The Air Force is working now to determine what their revalidation process timeframe will be.**

The ESA may institute Production Lot Testing or a First Article Test if they feel it is warranted.

The DSCR Technical Oversight Office is working to standardize the management of Critical Safety Items across the Services.



Who Approves My Data?

- **All Critical Safety Items (CSI) & Critical Application Items identified as (CIC), Aircraft Launch & Recovery (ALRE), Individual Repair Parts Ordering Data (IRPOD), and Controlled Source items must be reviewed by the Engineering Support Activity (ESA) for approval.**
- **The Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) has Approval authority for items on Source Controlled drawings.**
- **Due to the detailed review processes involved, Procurement Awards are not held pending the review and determination of formal Source Approval Request (SAR) packages when material demand requirements dictate.**



Who Approves My Data?

- **Source approval is not evaluated for items where the drawings are designated “Proprietary” unless formal documentation of Data Rights Use Authority or Release of Data Rights from the OEM is provided at the time of the Source Approval request.**
- **Source approval for non-critical Sole Source or Competitive items may be performed at DSCR if the ESA’s have not placed restrictions on the item.**
- **Source approval is not required for items that are Fully Competitive.**

There may be specific Quality Assurance Requirements imposed by the ESA’s to address any unique characteristics that need to be controlled.



What do I need to provide?

- **For Non-critical (“3H” or “1H”) items**
 - **Cover letter stating your desire to be an approved source on a specific NSN.**
 - **Current, complete & legible technical data package to include drawings, sub-tier drawings, parts lists and first page of all applicable specifications.**
 - **Certificate of Law Signed by Company official**



What do I need to provide?

- **For all Critical items or Controlled Source items “3C” or “1C”, use DSCR Source Approval Guide <http://dscrwww/sarguide.doc> to decide what data is required. DSCR will forward the SAR to the ESA.**
- **For Source Controlled items coded “3B” or “1B”, the contractor must forward their source approval request to the Design Control Activity or OEM**
- **For QPL items coded “1T” source approval must be submitted to the approving authority listed on the specification for review and acceptance.**



DSCR SAR CHECKLIST

The Contractor should first select which category is appropriate for the part they wish to become approved to manufacture. The Contractor must then provide in the Source Approval Request (SAR) all requirements that are checked under the category selected. If a requirement does not exist for a specific part (e.g. no test plan required) then provide a statement to that fact.

For information on Reverse Engineering, refer to the DSCR Small Business Web site.

http://www.dscr.dla.mil/sbo1/business_opportunity_center.htm



DSCR SOURCE APPROVAL CHECKLIST

I SAME PART

II SIMILAR PART (EQUIVALENT)

APPENDIX	CATEGORY	I	II	III
X	REQUIREMENT			
A	COVER LETTER	X	X	X
B	QUALIFICATION PART DRAWINGS	X	X	X
C	QUALIFICATION PART DETAILED MANUFACTURING PLAN	X	X	X
D	MASTER TOOLING CERTIFICATION	X	X	X
E	DATA CERTIFICATION	X	X	X
F	QUALIFICATION PART SUBCONTR/VENDOR LIST	X	X	X
G	QUALIFICATION PART SHIPPING DOCS	X		
H	SIMILAR (EQUIVALENT) PART DRAWINGS		X	
I	SIMILAR (EQUIVALENT) PART SHIPPING DOCUMENTS		X	
J	COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS		X	
K	SIMILAR (EQUIVALENT) PART MANUFACTURING PLAN		X	
L	SIMILAR (EQUIVALENT) PART SUBCONTR/VENDOR LIST		X	
M	TEST PLANS			X
N	LICENSEE AGREEMENT	X	X	X
O	SUMMARIZATION, QUALITY, DEFICIENCY	X	X	
P	INSPECTION METHOD SHEETS	X	X	X
Q	ENGINE PART SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS	X	X	X
R	TECHNICAL BRIEFING (IF REQUIRED)			X
S	SAMPLE PART			X
T	VALUE ADDED	X	X	X



Alternate Offers Clauses

- **Clauses can be viewed on the Worldwide Web at the following addresses:**
- **<http://www.dscr.dla.mil/proc/clauses/files/L54.txt>**
- **<http://www.dscr.dla.mil/proc/clauses/files/L58.txt>**
- **<http://www.dscr.dla.mil/proc/clauses/files/L59d.txt>**